



**METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

Agenda Item 4a
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MTC PLANNING COMMITTEE
January 9, 2015
MINUTES

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Dave Cortese, Vice Chair
Santa Clara County

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Cities of San Mateo County

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U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development

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Cities of Alameda County

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City and County of San Francisco

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Sonoma County and Cities

Julie Pierce
Association of Bay Area Governments

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California State
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Solano County and Cities

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Scott Wiener
San Francisco Mayor's Appointee

Steve Heminger
Executive Director

Alix Bockelman
Deputy Executive Director, Policy

Andrew B. Fremier
Deputy Executive Director, Operations

ATTENDANCE

Chair Sperring called the MTC Planning Committee meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Planning Committee members in attendance were: Commissioners Haggerty, Liccardo, Mackenzie and Pierce. Commission Chair Rein-Worth and Vice-Chair Cortese were present in their ex-officio voting member capacity. Commissioner Bates, Campos, Tissier and Wiener were present as ad hoc non-voting members of the Committee.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Minutes of December 12, 2014

Commissioner Mackenzie moved approval of the Consent Calendar and Commissioner Pierce seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

VITAL SIGNS PERFORMANCE MONITORING INITIATIVE

Mr. David Vautin presented an overview of MTC's new performance monitoring initiative to track regional trends and summarized findings from Phase 1A – Transportation. He concluded with a preview of the upcoming Vital Signs performance monitoring website.

Committee discussion:

- Commissioner Sperring asked how this will be used in the next round of the Plan. Mr. Vautin stated that it will help staff understand areas that the region has fallen short in the past. The data should help refine the vision for the Plan Bay Area Update.
- Commissioner Sperring asked, when the data show that 77% of Bay Area residents commute by car, what accommodations are being made for those people? Do we want to change that trend or do we want to help facilitate that commute? Mr. Heminger noted that staff is trying to integrate performance at every level to support decision-making. Performance measures have been used in the Plan to evaluate projects for all modes. That analysis indicated that traditional heavy capital investments are not necessarily the best place to spend money. The performance discipline is highlighting the extent to which staff needs to focus more on operational improvements.
- Commissioner Wiener stated that this really shows that transit capacity has not kept up with us. He indicated that he hopes that this will spur efforts statewide, regionally and locally to increase the investment in transit capacity.
- Commissioner Cortese noted that tracking what's going on with the non-public carriers, such as Google with their free shuttles, would be interesting to see how it impacts the much larger numbers in the Bay Area. He also asked how much staff is looking at demographic changes over time. Mr. Heminger noted

that staff wants to get Google and other major firms involved, because if you add all of the private shuttles together they may be the seventh or eighth largest transit operation in the Bay Area. He also responded to the demographic changes and noted that there is growth in demographic groups that will probably favor transit more than not.

- Commissioner Worth stated that staff needs to look at issues around work hours and consider how changes to employer operations might be able to provide flexibility.
- Commissioner Pierce asked if there will be an audio narrative on the website. Mr. Vautin responded yes, and that staff is working on creating a series of short videos. Commissioner Pierce also stated that commute flow charts would work well with employers for subsidies or independently privately funded shuttles such as the ones Google uses. She also suggested that staff make note on the website that the data shown is not real time – it may be 1-2 years old.
- Commissioner Spring suggested that staff reference where the real time traffic data can be located.
- Commissioner Haggerty commented on the lack of tracking people moving from adjacent regions, and asked what those communities are doing transit-wise. He asked if there is a better way to track people moving into the Bay Area.
- Commissioner Mackenzie commented on “real-time” and significant changes that have taken place over the last 12 months in terms of busier roadways and more transit crowding. He also commented on the changing traffic patterns and commute patterns on Highway 37 and Highway 101, and how important it is to show the real-time data.
- Commissioner Bates suggested staff create a campaign to use for the existing transportation network. Get the state to incentivize the employers to give their employees flexibility. He also suggested getting BART to carry more passengers – possibly building another transbay tube for BART to access San Francisco.
- Commissioner Campos inquired about the outreach process for Vital Signs. Mr. Vautin stated that staff is working on their outreach plan for when they launch their site in a few weeks. They plan on a series of press releases, social media, and will make sure the site is available in a large number of languages in hopes that it will attract diversity in terms of the viewership. Staff has been talking to working groups and stakeholders from the various counties and cities to get the word out through those venues.
- Commissioner Campos noted that community-based organizations are one way of getting the word out, as well as accessing ethnic media. He also commented on displacement and asked if there is any way of knowing how displacement impacted traffic congestion. Mr. Vautin stated that it’s difficult to track displacement, and trying to make that correlation with traffic trends is very difficult. Staff will have more answers and more clarity when they come back with the land use and economic data.

Public Comment:

- Mr. Ken Bukowski asked staff to improve the contrast of colors on their presentations as it is difficult to read. He also suggested staff do a traffic model with this, or consider putting an express bus lane on the Bay Bridge to see how it impacts traffic.
- Clarence Fischer commended staff on this being one of the best presentations to date among the regional agencies and for providing easily accessible data that will be available for the public and other agencies. He suggested adding, for a potential data source in the future, as

staff looks as public transit data ridership statistics to also include for each operator the number of route miles and routes per year.

- Jane Kramer commented on the concern of how to reduce time spent in congestion, and one suggestion is to stagger work hours. The Commission needs to keep in mind that they cannot determine the way people want to organize their lives and that there are many considerations needed to make in their daily lives, including childcare in some cases.

OTHER BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Ken Bukowski stated that he is now a Notary Public. There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m. The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 13, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. in the Lawrence D. Dahms Auditorium, Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter, Oakland, CA.